Idaho State Water Plan Resource Inventory

Sandra Thiel February 20, 2008

Draft: late April

- Geology
- History
- Land Cover
- Land Use
- Ownership
- Climate

2. Water Supply

- Average Annual Water Supply
- Rivers
- Lakes and Reservoirs
- Aquifers and Ground Water
- Evaporation and Transpiration
- Geothermal Resources
- Water Quality
- Watersheds
- Drought
- Floods

3. Water Uses

- Municipal and Domestic
- Public Water Supply
- Agriculture and Dairies
- Commercial and Industrial
- Potential Reservoirs
- Aquaculture
- Recreation
- Fish and Wildlife

- Power Production
- Commercial Navigation
- Weather Modification
- Conservation
- Wetlands
- Demographics and Economics

Economic Forecasts

Farm Economy

4. Regulatory and Administrative Impacts

Draft: middle September

Idaho Department of Water Resource

- Wells
- Adjudication and Water Rights
- Conjunctive Management
- Trust Water, Moratorium Areas, Critical Ground Water Areas, Areas of Drilling Concern, Ground Water Management Areas, Ground Water Districts, Water Districts.

4. Regulatory and Administrative Impacts,

Idaho Water Resource Board Programs

- Minimum Stream Flow
- Water Transactions
- Financial Programs
- Water Banks

Other State Agencies
Federal Agencies and Programs
Water Related Law

Special Topics: Due end of October

- Invasive Species Plants
- Regional Issues
- Fire Impacts
- Climate Change

Issues to consider:

New data cut off date: June 30

 We may need outside contractors to develop economic and demographic forecasts

Landscape

Idaho covers 83,574 square miles, making it the 1 4th largest of the 50 states. Water covers 823 square miles.

With 80 recognized mountain ranges, Idaho is home to some of the most spectacular scenery and most rugged landscapes in the United States.

Dominated by the Rocky Mountains, Idaho's Shoshone Falls on the Snake River drops 21 2 feet making it higher than Niagara Falls. Hells Canyon, also on the Snake River, is a gorge that is deeper than the Grand Canyon.

Idaho can be divided into three major land regions geographically; the Rocky Mountains, the Columbia Plateau and the Basin and Ridge Region.

The Carey Act

"The Carey Act of 1894 allowed private companies in the U.S. to erect irrigation systems in the western, semi-arid states, and profit from the sales of water. Through advertising, these companies attracted farmers to the many states which successfully utilized the act, Notably Idaho and Wyoming."

"Milner Dam, Completed in 1905 with private funds, made possible the successful Twin Falls south side project under the Carey Act."²



Silver Creek

Geology

Four distinct eras of geologic times are recorded in the rocks of Idaho Precambrian rocks formed from sediments laid down by seas one billion. years ago. Thousands of feet of sediment accumulated on the sea floor and uplift occurred folding the newly deposited rock layers. During the 370 years of the Paleozoic era, marine sedimentation occurred. Much of the state remained above sea level. Rocks formed during this time were up to 30,000 feet thick and contain fossils that provide a chronology of that era. The phosphate beds in southeastern Idaho were formed at the end of the Paleozoic along with uplift and warping of the crust.

History

In 1863 Henry H. Spalding established a mission near Lapwai Idaho. He developed Idaho's first irrigation system which he used to grow the state's first potatoes.



